

W Wooster High School Wooster City School District

September, 2010

Welcome Back! The school year is already moving along quickly, and we are happy to see students and staff fully engaged in the learning process. Currently, we are working hard to address attendance rate, graduation rate, and successful passage of the Ohio Graduation Tests (OGT) for all students.

The fall OGT testing will occur the week of October 25: only those juniors and seniors who have not passed a portion of the OGT will be testing. As always when testing, please make sure that your child is in school, eats well, and gets the appropriate amount of sleep.

We did pass the attendance rate this year at 93.2% (required 93%), but we are below the state average of 94.2%. Please help in this area by encouraging your child to attend school.

Wooster High School was designated as an Excellent rated school--passing 11/12 indicators. The final area that we are addressing is graduation rate (the indicator not passed on the report card). Wooster High School is committed to providing a quality education, and we strive to graduate all our students; please encourage your child to take pride in the educational process.

Mrs. Anita Jorney-Gifford, Principal

Inspiring World-Class Academic Achievement

Testing

The SAT and ACT now have a Writing section on the assessments.

On the SAT, the Writing section is **NOT** optional. On the ACT, Writing **IS** optional. Not all institutions require or recommend taking the ACT Writing Test in addition to the ACT Assessment. Check with the colleges you are considering or go to www.act.org for a list of institutions that have provided information to ACT about their policies whether they require, recommend, or do not need results from the ACT Writing Test.

The Writing Test is required at OSU, Miami University, University of Cincinnati, and University of Toledo.

Guidance Activities

October

Test Day - October 13

Seniors - College Visitation/Job Shadowing

Juniors - PSAT/ASVAB

Sophomores - PLAN

Freshmen - EXPLORE

October/November and March

Ohio Graduation Test (OGT)

Oct. 25 - Oct. 29

juniors and seniors only

Nov. 1 - Nov. 4

makeup for junior and seniors only

March 15-19 for all sophomores and those juniors and seniors as needed

March 22-26 - makeup for sophomores, juniors and seniors

Seniors, please see your Guidance Counselor to receive a college visit or job-shadowing interview sheet.

Juniors, please sign up for the PSAT in the Guidance Office.

November/December

Wayne County Career Center

Visitation Day - Nov. 12

Open House - Dec. 2

February

Post Secondary Enrollment Option Meeting
with parents, Feb. 8

May

Advanced Placement Testing
May 2 - May 13

College Application Podcast

The Wooster High School Guidance Department has launched the College Application Podcast. The Podcast explains the steps necessary to complete a college application, along with the materials required and can be located on our website at: www.woostercityschools.org. Please feel free to contact your child's guidance counselor with any questions.

Seniors:

What are your future plans? You may gather information about colleges by making campus visits and attending presentations by college representatives that visit WHS (see schedule on page 3).

Wednesday, October 13 would be an excellent day for seniors to schedule a college visit. This is our annual WHS "test" day where seniors have the following options:

1. Schedule a college visit
2. Make arrangements with an employer to job shadow
3. Stay at WHS and take the ASVAB – the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery Test

Seniors who choose to take a college visit or job shadow are excused for the day. They must make prior arrangements with their guidance counselor by October 8.

*NOTE: Juniors and Seniors are permitted three (3) college visitation days per year prior to May 1.

The guidance counselors would like to make the following suggestions for seniors

- Take or retake the ACT or SAT college entrance tests to improve your score.
- Be aware of college admission deadlines and **APPLY EARLY!**
- Apply for financial aid in January. (Check to see if FAFSA instructions/forms are available in the Guidance Office)
- Complete the FAFSA online at www.fafsa.ed.gov, after January 1.
- Continue to take a challenging curriculum of classes.
- Make an appointment to meet with your guidance counselor to discuss your future plans – especially if you have "senior privilege" first or last period.
- Prepare an activity sheet of community/school involvement to send with admission and scholarship applications.
- Check bulletin boards in the guidance office for information about college visits and scholarships.
- Search out information on other options besides college – i.e. military, trade school, technical training.

Marine Biology and Western Field Studies 2010-2011

Attention: All Tri-County High School
Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors!
Class offered through the Enrichment Academy
Information Meeting

For Parents and Students

Western Field Studies - Monday, October 25 - 7:00 p.m.

Marine Biology - Wednesday, October 27 - 7:00 p.m.

Wooster High School - Large Group Meeting Room – 2nd floor
(signs will be posted)

Questions???

Call Diane Pool, Consultant

Tri-County Educational Service Center

330-345-6771, ext. 253 or fax 330-345-7622

Visit our web site at www.tricountyesc.org for applications.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

Grades 9-12

Monday, November 1

5:00-8:00 p.m.

and

Thursday, November 4

5:00-8:00 p.m.

Location: WHS Commons

No appointments

College Application Deadlines

College applications due by January 1 will need to be turned in to the guidance office by December 10! We will **NOT**, under any circumstances, be expected to process college applications received the week of December 20-22 that are due by January 1. Therefore, if you want your applications mailed prior to winter break, they must be to your counselor by the December 10. There will be **NO** exceptions! We will accept applications due after January 1 at any time and will process them upon return on January 3.

College Representatives

Please sign up in the Guidance office in advance.

Indiana Wesleyan University	9/29/10
Bluffton University	9/29/10
Kent State University	9/30/10
Bowling Green State University	10/01/10
Baldwin-Wallace College	10/5/10
Ohio Northern University	10/5/10
Allegheny College	10/06/10
Capital University	10/8/10
Dayton University	10/8/10
Otterbein University	10/12/10
OH State School of Cosmetology	10/19/10
Denison University	10/20/10
University of Findlay	10/20/10
Westminster College	11/02/10
University of Akron	11/02/10
OSU - Mansfield	11/08/10
Walsh University	11/10/10

SAT

College Entrance Exam – Cost is \$47

Test Date Registration Deadline

Oct. 9 Sept. 10
Nov. 6 Oct. 8
Dec. 4 Nov. 5
Jan. 22 Dec. 23
March 12 Feb. 11
May 7 April 8
 June 4 May 6

ACT

College Entrance Exam – Cost is \$33.00
 or plus writing \$48.00

Test Date Registration Deadline

Oct. 23 Sept. 17
Dec. 11 Nov. 5
Feb. 12 Jan. 7
Apr. 9 March 4
 June 11 May 6

Bold denotes test given at WHS
 (School Code: 365-630)

Peterson's Student Edge

The Wooster High School Guidance department is pleased to tell you about a very special service we offer through our school: Peterson's Student Edge. This 24 hour, easy to use online resource center allows your child to prepare for tests, find a college, search for financial aid and explore careers.

Program components include:

- Peterson's award-winning online course for the ACT®, SAT™, and PSAT™
- Unlimited access to online practice tests for the ACT®, SAT™, and SAT Subject Tests™, AP™ Exams, and ASVAB
- Comprehensive college search tool linking to more than 4,200 schools with interactive profiles
- The most complete financial aid tools available with more than \$8 billion in public and institution-based aid in a comprehensive scholarship database
- Career resources that include a career assessment, career outlook tools and a resume builder
- Personalized to do lists that help guide students through the planning process

The program includes both a student and parent component. We encourage you to explore all the resources available through Student Edge.

To register, log on at: www.mystudentedge.com

Wooster High School's access code is: QRJHAPBV

If you have any questions, please contact your child's guidance counselor.

Are you considering a job in the health care field?

Companions of Ashland/Wayne Home Care & Nurse Aide Training Center has classes for Nurse Aide now forming. Stop by the guidance office for information.

Freshmen:

On "test" day, freshmen will take the EXPLORE which is an ACT college readiness test that includes tests in English, Math, Reading, and Science. The EXPLORE Student Score Report gives information about knowledge, skills, interests, career plans, high school coursework plans, and the amount of help the student thinks they need in seven areas. The EXPLORE prepares students not only for their high school coursework, but also for their post-high school choices as well. It marks an important beginning for a student's future academic and career success.

Sophomores:

Sophomore students will be taking the PLAN test on "test" day, Oct. 13. PLAN gives sophomores an estimate of how they will score on the ACT; PLAN tests them in the same four areas as the ACT – English, Math, Reading, & Science. It also gives the students some insight as to what careers they might choose according to their abilities and answers they give on the career inventory section of the test. The PLAN cost was included in the student fees.

Juniors:

Some important points for juniors to think about and begin acting on this year:

- * Sign up to take the PSAT - a test that could qualify you to become a National Merit scholar and receive money for college. Also, it is a good practice test for the SAT. Mr. Leshner will be collecting the test cost of \$13.00 through Oct. 11. Make checks payable to WHS. The test will be given Oct. 13 during "test" day at WHS. If you are NOT going to sign up for the PSAT test, you will be taking the ASVAB test – the Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery test.
- * Register and take the ACT or SAT sometime this school year.
- * Begin your college search by visiting school
- * Keep in mind the college prep core courses suggested for college success when planning your senior year schedule.
- * Become familiar with admission requirements of schools of interest.
- * Use the materials in the Guidance Resource Room.

College Fair for students with Learning Disabilities

Featuring schools from Ohio and across the nation!

Tuesday, October 5
6:30-8:00 p.m.

Free and open to the public
For more information contact:

Phyllis Solove
solovep@gips.org or
(614) 478-5500 ext 126

The Parent Project

Parents, if you are concerned about a stubborn, defiant or out of control adolescent, The Parent Project provides concrete solutions! The Parent Project is a 10-week parent group and class designed specifically for parents of strong-willed or out-of-control adolescents. Parents and teens both attend activity-based group meetings. Parents learn how to manage teen behavior problems. Teens learn positive alternatives to destructive behavior. Younger siblings benefit from the improved family dynamics.

The Parent Project is taught by trained staff members from The Counseling Center. Classes meet on Thursdays from 6:00-9:00 p.m. at the Wooster United Methodist Church in downtown Wooster starting Oct. 7. The cost is \$75 per family; limited scholarships available. Families must pre-register by calling Joy Stitzlein at The Counseling Center: (330) 264-9029. Classes are limited to 20.

WCSCC Presentations

On Wednesday, Oct. 6 representatives from the Wayne County Schools Career Center will be in the LGIR for **Sophomore** presentations. Sophomores will learn about the variety of programs the WCSCC has to offer during biology classes throughout the day.

Also, for **Juniors** - during 3rd period there will be an informational meeting about the Teaching Professions program which encourages and prepares students to be future teachers, counselors, school psychologists, or administrators. Any juniors interested in the Teaching program please sign up in the guidance office.

For **Sophomores**, the Visitation Day at WCSCC will be Friday, Nov. 12.

Are you ready for the SAT/ACT?

Do You Know:

- *What the best test-taking strategies are for use with the SAT/ACT exam?
- *What you should do if you don't know the answer to an exam question?
- *What the best ways are to prepare for the day of the exam?
- *When can a calculator be used?

Prepare yourself to take the SAT/ACT college entrance exam through Wayne College!

Develop general strategies for taking standardized tests. Courses are offered through Wayne College at www.ed2go.com/Wayne. Click on the "More" tab in the Featured Departments section. Test Prep can be found in the Personal Development category. Several different sessions are offered for SAT/ACT Preparation Course.

Also see Peterson's Student Edge on page 3 and check out the Wooster High School library for additional SAT/ACT testing preparation materials.

Progress Book

Progress Book codes for both students and parents are available in the Guidance Office. Students may access their assignments and grades by using their code at any time at progress.tccsa.net. Please call the Guidance Office at 330-345-4000, ext. 3400 or email Diane Lepley, Guidance Secretary at wstr_dlepley@woostercityschools.org with Progress Book questions or problems.

Scholarships/College Visits

Seniors, remember to check the Guidance Office bulletin board, as well as the district website for new scholarship opportunities that have been added. Also, listen to the morning announcements daily for further scholarship and college visit information. Be sure to sign up in the Guidance Office to receive a pass to meet with a college representative. The schedule of college visits can be found on page 2 of this newsletter.

Counselors - 330-345-4000

Ms. Paula Kimble, ext. 3102
Grades 9-12, A – E

Mrs. Cheryl A. Goff, ext. 3108
Grades 9-12, Em – K

Miss Julie Ecker, ext. 3404
Grades 9-12, L – Re

Mr. Curt Leshner, ext. 3107
Grades 9-12, Rh – Z